

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4341

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0212

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

REF: MAPUTO 211

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,HMZ, RH

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE APPLIES ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA;
RHODESIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS MISINTERPRET PRESIDENT MACHEL'S
SPEECH

REF: MAPUTO 211

1. DESPITE WILD, EXAGGERATED STORIES BEING CARRIED BY SOME
INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICES, MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT
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REPEAT NOT DECLARED WWR ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND HAS NOT RE-

PEAT NOT INDICATED IT PLANS TO USE ITS MILITARY FORCES TO INVADE OR LAUNCH ATTACKS AGAINST RHODESIA. MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONTINUOUS RHODESIAN INCURSIONS INTO HIS COUNTRY CONSTITUTED AN "ACT OF WAR" ON PART OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE.

2. IN ORDER FOR MOZAMBIQUE TO MEET CHALLENGE POSED BY THIS AGRESSION, MACHEL SAID PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME A STRONG DEFENSIVE POSTURE. HE CALLED ON PEOPLE TO PRODUCE MORE FOOD, ASSIST ANC GUERRILLAS MORALLY, POLITICALLY AND MATERIALLY, CONTRIBUTE UNSELFISHLY TO MOZAMBIQUE SOLIDARITY BANK FOR LIBERATION OF OPPRESSED PEOPLE AND (FOR THOSE PEOPLE LIVING ALONG 600 MILE MOZAMBIQUE-RHODESIAN BORDER) TO BUILD AIR-RAID AND BOMB SHELTERS. HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT CALL FOR MASS MOBILIZATION OF POPULATION OR ARMED FORCES TO START THE LONG MARCH TO SALISBURY.

3. MACHEL'S MOST POSITIVE ACT WAS TO IMPOSE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST REGIME IN ACCORDANCE TO PREVIOUSLY PASSED OAU AND UN RESOLUTIONS. ALL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN RHODESIA AND MOZAMBIQUE HAS BEEN BROKEN OFF: RAIL, AIR, TELEPHONE, AND TELEGRAPHIC LINKS HAVE BEEN SEVERED. PRIVATE AND PUBLIC RHODESIAN PROPERTY IN MOZAMBIQUE AS BEEN CONFISCATED. AND WE HAVE NOTICED THAT THE FIVE UNOFFICIAL RHODESIAN DIPLOMATS WHO HAD REMAINED IN MAPUTO AFTER MOZAMBIQUE'S INDEPENDENCE HAVE ALL DEPARTED THE CITY OR BEEN ARRESTED. (WE ARE NOT ENTIRELY SURE OF THE FATE OF ALL OF THEM YET.)

4. ACTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT APPARENTLY EFFECTED THE COMPLEX OF SOUTH AFRICAN-MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS. AS OF MORNING OF MARCH 4, SA PORT ADVISORS WERE STILL ON THE JOB IN MAPUTO, WENLA (SOUTH AFRICA LABOR RECRUITING OFFICE) WAS DOING BUSINESS AS USUAL, SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAY AND AIRLINES OFFICES WERE OPEN, AND UNOFFICIAL SA DIPLOMATS WERE SEEN IN TOWN.

5. THERE HAS BEEN NO UNUSUAL MILITARY OR CIVIL ACTIVITY IN MAPUTO SINCE SPEECH. CITY REMAINS CALM, AS MOST PORTUGUESE CONTINUE TO PREPARE TO TAKE PART IN JUNE TO AUGUST MASS EXODUS.

6 COMMENT: MOST OF THE EXAGGERATED WIRE SERVICE STORIES WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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BASED ON ALARMIST AND BIASED RHODESIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN INTERPRETATION OF PRESIDENT MACHEL'S MARCH 3 SPEECH. MACHEL DELIVERED HIS SPEECH IN SOMBER TONE, NOT A BELIGERENT ONE. ONLY THOSE WHO WANTED TO DISTORT HIS REMARKS, DID SO. SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN PRESS WERE AMONG THOSE WHO DID. CARSON

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